

## What To Expect When You Visit Mantua Center Christian Church

# Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms

This is our "motto" and with God's help, we seek to live up to it! As a community of faith, we strive to be open to God and open to one another. We want to be an inviting place where we can learn from each other and grow deeper in our faith. We hope that our church is a place of sanctuary for those embattled by life's struggles, but also a place to be challenged to walk the walk that Christ calls us to. We'd love for you to come and see for yourself!

Here are some things that we think visitors might want to know before they visit...

### **Where are you located?**

Our address is 4118 State Route 82 in Mantua, OH (44255)--at the corner of 82 and Mantua Center Road in Mantua Township. You will see three historical buildings on the southeast corner – we're the one in the middle. You can park anywhere there's an open space by these buildings.

### **What time is the service and how long is it?**

Worship begins at 9:30 AM, and usually lasts a little over one hour.

### **Is there a Dress Code?**

No. You'll see people in jeans and t-shirts, and people in suit & tie, dresses, and their "Sunday best," and many people wearing casual clothing that's somewhere in between. We believe that God wants us to "come as we are" to worship and desires open ears and open hearts, not a particular kind of clothing. Come as you are comfortable – you will fit right in!

### **What About Our Children?**

If your kids are 0-4 years old, we have a nursery that you are welcome to take them to if you would like. Our nursery is staffed with a trained (First Aid & CPR) and experienced child care provider that loves to work with kids. The nursery is located on the first floor of our educational wing (the building on the left when you're looking at the church). You can take them there right away if you want (there's an entrance there), or feel free to come up to the sanctuary doors where a deacon or greeter will be happy to direct you where to go.

For older children (K-2nd grade), there is a brief Children's Sermon early in the worship service, after which the kids can attend "Faith & Friends" or remain with their parents in worship. Either one is fine. At "Faith & Friends," the kids have time to play with one another and to have some planned activities with the adult helpers.

### **What is worship like?**

Every Sunday morning is a new experience at Mantua Center – no two weeks are alike! The worship is traditional in form, but not in a rigid sense. With a wonderful mixture of lay and pastoral leadership, there are always different voices heard throughout the service. There are times for serious and solemn worship and there are times to enjoy God's presence with joy and laughter. Most often, you'll find it all in the same service! At all times, we hope and pray that our worship gives glory to God! (I Cor 10:31) Pastor Chad usually delivers the morning message, though we often have guest speakers, Youth Sundays, and other non-traditional worship services.

### **What About Communion?**

Pastor Chad will invite everyone to take communion as the bread and wine (actually grape juice) is passed through the congregation. Communion is central to our worship service and our faith tradition as Disciples, and celebrated each week. There is no test, no qualifications to meet, no confession to make in order to receive Communion. It is Christ's table--not ours. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

### **Is There Music?**

MCCC has an Adult Vocal Choir and a Bell Choir, one of which will help lead worship on most Sundays. There are also occasions during the year where we have other special music, both vocal and instrumental. As a congregation, we will sing several songs and traditional hymns throughout the service with organ or piano accompaniment.

### **Will I Be Expected To Talk during the service?**

You can slip in and out as quickly and quietly as you wish, or you are welcomed to socialize before and after the service, as you feel comfortable. The pastor or worship leader will ask the congregation for prayer concerns during of worship, but no one is obligated in any way to speak out during the service.

### **Sunday School?**

There are classes for all ages of children and teenagers, including your choice of three adult classes. The classes start at 11:00a after a brief gathering time in the Fellowship Hall directly following the worship service (the fellowship hall is the big room right below the sanctuary). The classes for children and youth seek to provide developmentally appropriate ways of studying the Bible and discussing life topics that are relevant to their lives. The purpose of the adult classes is to provide a small group atmosphere to build relationships with one another and to provide an open space to read and discuss scripture, Click [here](#) for additional information.

### **Restrooms?**

There are restrooms at the bottom of the steps leading downstairs in the back of the sanctuary, as well as on the second floor of the education wing and in our nursery.

### **What denomination are you?**

We are part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination. Our denomination was born on the American frontier in the early 1800s and sought to unite all Christians saying that "We have no creed but Christ." Feel free to check out the denomination website [www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org).

### **Questions?**

Feel free to contact us at:

Phone: 330-274-8258

Mail: 4118 State Route 82, Mantua, Ohio 44255

Email: [mccc@mantuacentercc.org](mailto:mccc@mantuacentercc.org)

Pastor: [pastormccc@gmail.com](mailto:pastormccc@gmail.com)